(b) what is the crime rate of these police stations during the last one year; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to streamline the black-listed police stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) No, Sir. In fact, the number of IPC crimes reported during the current years (upto 31st July, 2003) from the area under Malviya Nagar Police Station was 460 as compared to 537 such crimes reported in the area during the corresponding period of last year.

NHRC Notice on disappeared persons in J & K

2431. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Human Rights Commission has asked the Jammu and Kashmir Government with regard to the disappeared persons in Valley even when the Central Government have maintained that disappeared persons were 'Terrorists' or those killed in 'Encounters';

(b) whether similar notices were also issued by NHRC in September, 2000 and if so, what was the result of that action; and

(c) whether the 'Association of the Parents of Disappeared Persons' was satisfied with that action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) took *suo-moto* cognizance on 1.9.2000 and 14.5.2003, of newspaper reports about disappearances of persons in the Kashmir Valley. Notices were issued to the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir and also the Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP) through the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir. A list of disappeared persons was called for.

The Commission has noticed certain variations in figures earlier furnished by APDP and recent statements on the issue and hence further

information has been called for. The Commission has not finalised its findings.

Damage due to natural calamities in H.P. and Uttaranchal

†2432. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise details of the recent damage to life and property due to calamities like landslide, sliding of rocks, floods in rivers and lightening in Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal; and

(b) the details of measures that have been taken by Government to check the recurrence of these calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND): (a) Government of Himachal Pradesh have reported loss of 58 lives due to cloudburst/flashfloods in the districts of Sirmour, Kullu-Manali and Kangra. Twenty people lost their lives, 499 houses were damaged and 300 cattle perished due to heavy rains/ landslides in the districts of Almorha, Pithoragarh, Nainital, Tehri, Pouri, Haridwar, Dehradun and Rudraprayag in Uttaranchal.

(b) It is not possible to check natural hazards. However, the impact of these hazards can be reduced by taking appropriate preparedness and mitigation measures. The Ministry of Home Affairs has taken various initiatives for strengthening the disaster management mechanism in the country. These include capacity building in emergency response; drawing up mitigation projects for earthquakes, cyclones and other disasters; and a project for strengthening of fire services; making disaster response training an integral part of training of the Central Para Military Forces; building disaster awareness in the curriculum for schools; steps have been taken to make disaster mitigation technologies an integral part of engineering curricula; induction/in-service training to officers of All India Services and to other Government functionaries down to the level of village in disaster management; mitigation measures in the planning and development process, etc.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.